

D. Lawrence  
#121D  
4/25/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Hunter

Atty Docket: 1118/174

Serial No.: 09/710,082 ✓

Art Unit: 1743

Date Filed: November 10, 2000

Examiner: A. Soderquist

For: METHOD FOR PERFORMING MICROASSAYS

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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this document, along with any other papers referred to as being attached or enclosed, is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as express mail with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on April 21, 2003.

  
Samuel J. Petuchowski

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Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

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RESPONSE C

GROUP 1700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed on December 12, 2002, Applicant requests amendment of claims 16 and 44 and reconsideration of the Application in light of the following discussion.

In the Claims

Please amend claims 16 and 44 to read as follows:

**16. (Amended four times)** A method for analyzing a plurality of samples, the method comprising:

- a. loading the samples into a plurality of through-holes disposed in a platen in a two-dimensional array characterized by an areal density of at least 1.6 through-holes per square millimeter;

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